

# Melanchollically

by Michael Edwards  
Brunswickan Entertainment

So, it's finally here. The new album by The Smashing Pumpkins. But not just any album, but a huge, sprawling double CD set that lasts for over two hours. Gulp. *Mellon Collie And The Infinite Sadness* attempts to recapture the feel of those concept albums that were ever-so-popular in the Seventies - they tended to take up four whole sides of vinyl, and had some kind of theme or story running through them. Unless you were coming alive like Peter Frampton was. So what is the theme of *Mellon Collie*? The most obvious answer would be sadness. Infinite sadness even.

Let's be honest - Billy Corgan is not the most cheerful person in the whole world. In fact, I haven't heard this kind of self-loathing since I listened to the last Nine Inch Nails album. He really doesn't seem to like himself very much at all, and you would be hard pressed to find some kind of optimistic slant to any of the 28 songs. That makes it a somewhat bleak album to listen to, but let's not concentrate on the negative side of things as there are plenty of good things about the album too.

Like the artwork. Such wonderful artwork. My own personal favourite is the picture of the cats getting

married. But back to the music (as I seem to be getting distracted). The 28 songs cover an awful lot of ground from the gentle piano on the title track to the out and out cacophony on 'X.Y.U.' and all points in between. And if you get bored, you can always try to pick out the singles, a game which isn't as easy as it is on other albums.



It's just that we are dealing with something which is so eclectic. So in that way, it is a better album than both *Siamese Dream* and *Gish*.

Each CD is given a title that presumably attempts to describe the music on it ("Dawn To Dusk" and "Twilight To Starlight"), but there isn't really much of a theme to either. Both have an equal share of loud and quiet

songs, with the second disc trying its utmost to be mellower. They also have their equal share of strong and weak songs too. I'm even tempted to say that the strong ones outnumber the weak ones, and that is a very good thing.

But there is an obvious problem, and that is with the sheer volume of music on here. Does any band really deserve a whole two hours of your time? And although it has been said quite a few times already, I shall say it again - this would have made a wonderful single album, cramming the best songs onto one CD. Take out the filler, so to speak.

But wouldn't that go against the whole idea of the excesses that double albums stand for? There seems to be more questions than answers with the Pumpkins these days.

Nevertheless, I really do admire the band for putting out an album which is so damned ambitious. Much was expected from this band after a couple of years off (apart from the compilation *Pisces Iscariot* last year), and rather than take some kind of easy route, they rose to the challenge. And there is more than enough good stuff on here to make it a necessary addition to your music library, if only so you can have your generation defined by a miserable git like Billy. Just kidding Billy, we love you. We really do. Honest.

## Pay your money, take your choice



Just some of the wares for sale at Christmas Choice '95  
Photo by Warren Watson

by Jethelo E. Cabilete  
Brunswickan Entertainment

It's that time of year again, when thoughts of Christmas bring about the dread of what to get that special someone. If you managed to go to Memorial Hall on Sunday November 26, then the opportunity for some truly original items may have been the perfect gift. The Christmas Choice '95: Open House and Craft Sale provided people with a wide selection of hand-crafted items from the skilled talents of local craftspeople.

The event was well attended, and Lynn Wigginton's *On Earth As It Is In Heaven* exhibition was extended; much to the appreciation of the patrons. The ambience was relaxed and informal, reminiscent of Norman Rockwell scenes. The decorated tree, lights, holiday foodstuffs and items was matched by the Christmas music were provided by The Bicentennial Choir, Peggy Vink and Sentimental Journey. The attendance of children

lent a festive air to an otherwise comfortable atmosphere.

The craft sale displayed the tremendous talent of the crafters who were selling their wares to the people who attended the open house exhibition. The various items ranged from woodturned bowls, woven scarves and rugs, home-made paper and clay pottery. The beautiful designs and simple, yet effective ornamentations on many of the crafts are indicative of the hard work put into them. Such local talents as Michiel Oudemans, Gordon Dunphy, students from the N.B. College of Craft and Design and Isabelle Lui, to name a few, were on hand to answer questions and showcase their craft. Even Gooselane Editions was on hand with locally written books for the avid reader.

Christmas Choice '95: Open House and Craft Sale is one of many craft exhibitions that are taking place in the city. The craft sale at Memorial Hall was a success, and people can look forward to many such craft exhibitions in the future.

### SMASHING PUMPKINS COMPETITION

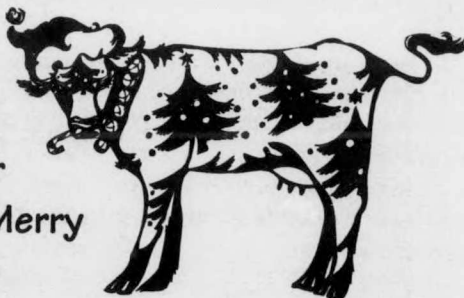
This week, we have THREE copies of the Smashing Pumpkins album 'Mellon Collie And The Infinite Sadness' to give away.

All you have to do is come up with a title for the next Smashing Pumpkins album (something equally depressing...)

Get your entry into The Bruns office, and the three most amusing answers will win a copy of the double CD (thanks to our very good friends at Virgin Canada).

The winners' names will be posted outside The Bruns office on Wednesday next week so you can pick up your prize before you head home for Christmas.

Daisy, The Brunswickan cow, would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas



**GRECO**  
Pizza On Time... Or Pizza On Us!.

**December Exam Special**

2 - 12" Garlic Fingers  
with 2 Large Sauce  
**\$9.90** plus taxes

**ONLY GRECO GUARANTEES FREE Delivery**  
in 30 minutes or **FREE FOOD\***

\* After 5PM conditions Permitting

Greco Student Number **452-0033**

Save this ad and present it the week of December 10-16 for 2 free pop with your order (Please tell us when ordering)

**IMAGINE**

**Christmas Computer Special!**

Special Limited Edition While Quantities Last

<p><b>Imagine Family P75</b> Intel Pentium 75Mhz Processor 8MB RAM, Up to 128MB 540MB EIDE Hard Drive 1MB PCI Graphics Accelerator 14" Color, High Resolution Monitor 1.44MB Floppy Drive 14.4KBaud Voice/Fax/Modem Panasonic Quad CD ROM 16 Bit Sound Card, Speakers Imagine CD Software Pack with 1996 Grolier's Encyclopedia Mavis Beacon Typing, World/US Atlas and Animals Mini-Tower Case 101 Key Keyboard, Mouse Microsoft Windows 95 One Year Extendable Warranty <b>\$ 1995.00</b> Lease for 64mo</p>	<p><b>Imagine Family P100</b> Intel Pentium 100Mhz Processor <b>16MB RAM, Up to 128MB</b> 1.1GB EIDE Hard Drive 2MB Graphics Accelerator 15" Color, High Resolution Monitor 1.44MB Floppy Drive 14.4KBaud Voice/Fax/Modem Panasonic Quad CD ROM 16 Bit Sound Card, Speakers Imagine CD Software Pack with 1996 Grolier's Encyclopedia Mavis Beacon Typing, World/US Atlas and Animals Mini-Tower Case 101 Key Keyboard, Mouse Microsoft Windows 95 One Year Extendable Warranty <b>\$ 2695.00</b> Lease for 67mo</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

446 3335  
Visit Our Showroom In Oromocto, NB

Service Centers Across Canada

intel inside pentium

just IMAGINE A Computer. A Vision. Beyond. A Division of TFE Industries Inc., Est. 1983

**IMAGINE**